



## Choice Neighborhoods e-Newsletter Issue 39 / June 2015

### CHOICE NEIGHBORHOODS ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS

#### **Upcoming Choice Neighborhoods Performance Measurement Webinar Series**

The Choice Neighborhoods Office is hosting the last two webinars in the series on performance measurement and management. The series is primarily designed for FY13 & 14 Planning Grantees but all grantees are welcome to attend. Invitations will be forthcoming:

- [Data Partnerships - June 23, 3pm](#)  
This webinar offers strategies for building data-sharing partnerships, including how to engage staff members, develop these partnerships, and create data-sharing agreements. [Register here.](#)
- [Performance Measurement and Management Systems – July 14, 3pm](#)  
The final webinar shares best practices for assessing partners' capacity and system infrastructure for performance management and measurement.

### NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION INITIATIVE AND PROMISE ZONES CORNER

#### **Grants for Technology Innovation for Public Safety**

The U.S. Department of Justice is seeking applications from state, local, and tribal jurisdictions for the FY 2015 Technology Innovation for Public Safety (TIPS) program, which provides grants to enhance information-sharing technology to help reduce crime. BJA estimates making up to 4 awards of up to \$500,000 each for 18-month projects. The [application](#) deadline is July 2.

#### **Solicitations for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program**

The U.S. Department of Justice has announced funding available for a wide-range of activities related to preventing and reducing crime. Eligible applicants are local governments on the FY 2015 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Allocations List. BJA estimates making up to 1,100 and 56 State/Territory awards totaling an estimated \$255.7 million. The [application](#) deadline is June 26.

#### **Asset for Independence Applicant Webinar Recording**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has posted a [recording](#) of and materials from their May 11 webinar on the 2015 Asset for Independence (AFI) funding opportunity. The

webinar is primarily targeted toward Choice Neighborhoods grantees, discusses the funding opportunity, and shares the experience of a grantee implementing AFI in their community.

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### **2015 Community-Police Partnership Awards**

The MetLife Foundation and LISC Community Safety Initiative (CSI) are making awards to recognize the work of innovative partnerships between community organizations and police to promote neighborhood safety and revitalization. The winning partnerships will receive awards of \$15,000 to \$20,000 and their work will be promoted to a wide audience of practitioners, policymakers, and academics. The [application](#) deadline is July 5.

### **Grants to Strengthen Communities through Art and Design**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) is accepting applications for grants to fund projects that strengthen the community through art and design. Eligible initiatives include neighborhood planning and design activities that promote economic and cultural vitality. Grants will generally range from \$10,000 to \$100,000. The [application](#) deadline is July 23.

### **Funding for Hunger Relief/Food Access Initiatives**

Bank of America Charitable Foundation is providing funding and the expertise of their employee volunteers to address the immediate challenges of food access and also connect families to supportive services and economic livelihood programs that help increase financial stability. The [application](#) period is July 20 to August 7.

### **Grants to Expand Economic Development in Rural Communities**

The USDA has made available \$10.4 million for grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 to provide training or technical assistance to support rural community economic development in areas such as homeownership education and strategic community planning. The [application](#) deadline is August 13.

### **Grants to Support Creative Placemaking**

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will provide a limited number of matching grants ranging from \$25,000 to \$100,000 to support local efforts to enhance the quality of life for residents under its 2016 Our Town grant program. The [application](#) deadline is September 21 and informational [webinars](#) will occur on July 29 and August 5 (registration begins in July).

## EVENTS AND TOOLS

### **Technical Assistance to Address Large-Scale Vacancy and Abandonment**

The Center for Community Progress (CCP) will select up to 4 communities to receive approximately 200 hours of reduced-rate technical assistance from a team of national experts to help with assessing, reforming, developing, and/or implementing systems to address large-scale

vacancy and abandonment in their communities. An informational [webinar](#) will be held on June 2 and the [application](#) is due on June 30.

### **Webinar on Increasing Access to Healthy Foods**

On June 9 at 2pm, PolicyLink will sponsor a webinar on how to leverage financial and community-powered resources to ensure the success of regional food systems that increase access to healthy foods for low-income communities and communities of color. [Register here](#).

### **Summit on How to Build Better Neighborhoods**

StreetCamps, a project of the Coalition for Smarter Growth, is hosting a one-day, low-cost summit on June 20 in Washington, DC to build both technical knowledge and advocacy skills on how to plan a neighborhood campaign, develop safe street design for walking and cycling, and understand the ins and outs of zoning. [Register here](#).

### **2015 NAHRO Summer Conference**

The 2015 National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) summer conference will take place July 30 – August 1 in Austin, TX. The conference provides an opportunity for housing and community development practitioners and policymakers to network and learn how to create affordable housing and build stronger communities. [Register here](#).

## **RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

### **Case Study on Youth Apprenticeships**

This [report by the Urban Institute](#) argues that youth apprenticeships can improve school and career outcomes for Baltimore youth who have experienced chronic education and employment problems. The report offers case studies of successful youth apprenticeships in Georgia, Wisconsin, and Europe.

### **A Tool Kit on Preserving, Protecting, and Expanding Affordable Housing**

Sponsored by the Kresge Foundation, ChangeLab Solutions has developed a [toolkit](#) for public health practitioners, along with public agencies, community organizations, and developers on how to preserve and promote safe and affordable housing for low- and moderate-income renters.

### **Implementing Place-Based Initiatives for Boys and Young Men of Color**

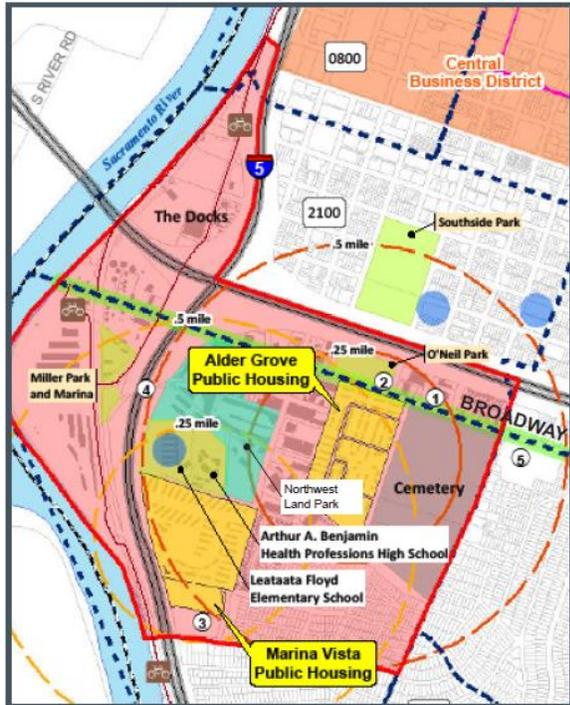
[PolicyLink developed a guide](#) on how communities can implement the next phase of achieving priority outcomes for boys and men of color. It focuses on two critical areas of work: 1) how to conduct a policy review and formulate recommendations for action; and 2) how to develop an action plan.

### **A Report on How the Performance Arts can Transform Places**

Sponsored by the National Endowments for the Arts, this [report](#) describes how creative placemaking can transform places and people through the arts.

## GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

In Sacramento's Choice Neighborhood of Upper Land Park/Broadway, local leaders are bringing the visioning process to life. Sacramento's efforts include two public housing communities,



Upper Land Park/Broadway neighborhood boundaries, which include the Alder Grove and Marina Vista public housing.

Marina Vista and Alder Grove, which are located near a historically middle class neighborhood. Some home owners and renters have expressed their skepticism about the planning process. To spark new ideas, the team took an "experience the revitalization for yourself tour" with committee members and residents this January. Members of the Housing Task Force and Community Advisory Committee, target housing residents, other neighborhood residents, service providers, and the area's Council Member, toured the HOPE VI Pueblo del Sol in Los Angeles to see what a revitalized, mixed-income community looks like.

After a walking tour of the 35-acre development, the group shared what they liked. Many public housing residents liked how the quality design created small villages for the 377 unit development, through architectural variation and landscaping. Neighbors came away with an understanding that public housing can look as good as or better than market rate single family housing. Another outcome was establishing relationships among residents and neighbors. The

tour and lessons learned were shared out during community meetings.

A strong force in Sacramento's planning efforts has been Scot Mende, who recently passed away. Sacramento would like to honor Scot who served as the Choice Neighborhoods Neighborhood Lead and was a dedicated public servant.

**If you have suggestions for topics or content that you would like to see in upcoming newsletters, please submit those requests to [choicetnewsletter@bctpartners.com](mailto:choicetnewsletter@bctpartners.com). Content must be submitted by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month to be considered for the upcoming month's publication.**